

Lifespan Respite Care Program

Project Summary

Grantee Organization: Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs

State: Rhode Island

Project Period: August 2012 through February 2014

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Project Overview:

The Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs in partnership with the Ocean State Caregiver Alliance, RI Timebanks; United Way/211; RI Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), HealthCentric Advisors and Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Providence will use funding to expand the scope of their existing Lifespan Respite Program known as *CareBreaks*. The **goal** of *CareBreaks* is to ensure that RI families have a visible and easily accessible lifespan respite care system that assists in identifying and meeting their needs as caregivers.

The project **objectives** include: 1) provision of training/information to key “portals” (both traditional and non-traditional) for family access, including United Way/211, ADRC, and the health care and other networks serving the lifespan; 2) expand capacity to deliver respite by increasing trained volunteers, private pay resources, and the availability of specialized providers; 3) increased provision of respite care to underserved populations; and 4) establishment of a sustainable respite care coordination mechanism.

Outcomes and Products:

Anticipated **outcomes** include 1) increased subsidized respite care; 2) an increase in the number of respite providers; and 3) an expanded role for the Caregiver Coalition across the state.

The **products** of this grant will include multi-language information tools for service staff, medical providers and faith-based and volunteer staff; an outcome evaluation of the impact of lifespan respite delivery on caregiver stress, and a sustainable, replicable model of collaboration for integrated respite care.